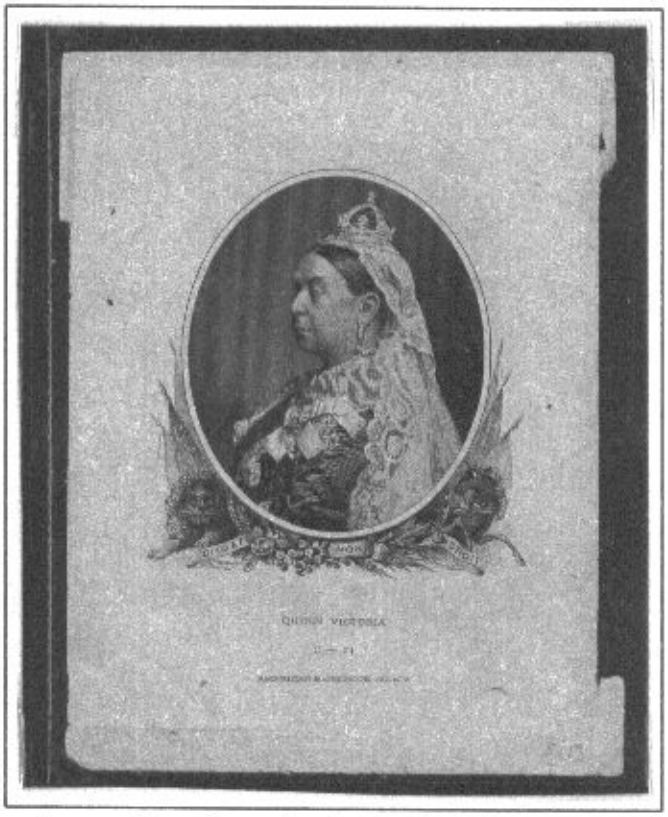
C A N A D A

Canada Celebrates

Queen Victoria's

Sixty Years Reign 1837-1897
with the 1897 Diamond Jubilees

Queen Victoria had completed sixty years' reign over the British Empire in 1897. To celebrate the occasion, on June 19th 1897 Canada issued the Diamond Jubilee Set of 16 stamps with a face value of $16.20½ .



In order to make change for the sale of these sets, Post Offices were provided with a sufficient quantity of the current half-cent postage stamps.

When issued, there was an immediate rush by the public to buy the half-cent and six cent values becuase of the low quantities being issued.

A week later the Post Office issued orders that these values could only be purchased with the full set at $16.20½ and shortly after the same restriction was placed on the eight cent and the dollar values.

The quantities issued were estimated on the actual output of the several denominations for an ordinary three months' consumption - with the exception of the dollar values.